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### CONFIDENTIAL

- -2- 171035Z September, From: Bangkok
- 2. FM THANA IS COMMENT ON FRENCH POSITION IN SEATO

REPLYING TO PRESS QUERY ON SENATOR DODD'S REPORTED SUGGESTION FRANCE BE "KICKED OUT" OF SEATO, FOREIN THANAT REPORTEDLY CALLED SUCH ACTION "TOO STRONG." THOUGH FRANCE TRYING UOO UNALIGNED AND NOT FULLY SUPPORTING SEATO OR NATO THANAT SAID OUSTER WOULD CAUSE THAI LOSE FRIEND AND BY IMPAIRING FRENCH PRESTIGE WOULD WEAKEN WESTERN ALLIANCE. COMMENTING ON FRENCH INDIFFERENCE TO ELEVENTH SEATO ANNIVERSARY, THANAT OBSERVED SEATO LOOKS LARGE IN THAI THINKING BUT A SMALL ISSUE IN THINKING OF CERTAIN WESTERN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING POSSIBLY FRANCE. (UNCLASSIFIED)

COMMENT: THANAT HAS BEEN VOCAL AND SOMETIMES HARSH CRITIC FRENCH NEGLECT OF OBLIGATIONS ATTENDING SEATO MEMBERSHIP. IN

PAGE THREE RUMTBK 266K C O N F I D E N T I A L
THIS INSTANCE, HOWEVER, HE APPARENTLY CONCERNED KELP DISENCHANTWENT WITH FRENCH FROM BEING PUSHED BEYOND LIMITS HE HIMSELF
CONSIDERS EXPEDIENT. (CONFIDENTIAL)

3. NVN RED CROSS REPS DEPART (WEEKA 29)

NVM RED CROSS REPS LEFT THAILAND SEP 12. RTG MAD REQUESTED THEIR DEPARTURE BECAUSE OF SUSPENSION REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES TO NVM SINCE AUGUST 1964. AGREEMENT FOR NVM REPS PRESENCE REMAINS VALID, HOWEVER, AND THEY COULD RETURN IF REPATRIATION PROGRAM RESUMED. (UNCLASSIFIED)

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES THREATENED DEMONSTRATIONS LAST JULY AGAINST

ACTUALLY LEFT COUNTRY. (CONFIDENTIAL)

4. PHOIMI'S FAMILY ARRIVES FROM LACS (WEEKE 27)

WIFE AND CHILDREN OF LAOS RIGHTIST GEN PHOUNT NOSAVAH APRIVED BANGKOK LAST WEEKEND AND PROCEEDED SONGKHLA WHERE PHOUNT NOW APPEARS TO HAVE DECIDED ON PERNANENT RESIDENCE. (UNCLASSIFIED)

5. ICFYU MISSION VISITS THA HAND

P.P. NARAYANAN OF EXECUTIVE BOARD OF ICFTU AND NATHUR, SECGEN OF ASIAN REGIONAL ORG. OF ICFTU AND HEAD OF ASIAN TRADE UNTION COLLEGE, N. DELHI, VISITED BANGKOV SEP 9-13 AND DISCUSSED

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PAGE FOUR RUMTBK 266K C O N F I D E N T I A L LABOR PROBLEMS WITH THIEN ATCHAKUN, DEP DIRECT DEPT OF PUBLICE WELFARE AND NIKHOM CHANTHARAWITHUN, ACTING CHIEF LABOR BUREAU, BOTH OF INTERIOR MIN. (CONFIDENTIAL)

COMMENT: THESE ANTI-COMMUNIST LABOR LEADERS WERE WILLING TO USE SOFTEST POSSIBLE APPROACH IN HOPES OF ASSISTING RTG TO LIBERALIZE LABOR POLICIES AND PRACTICES WITHOUT ENCOURAGING SUBVERSIVE LABOR ACTIVITIES. MEANUHILE RTG IS RAISING LABOR BUREAU TO DEPARTMENT STATUS WITHIN INTERIOR MINISTRY AND IS PREPARED TO MOVE CAUTIOUSLY TOWARD THIS GOAL. (BIWER 18) (CONFIDENTIAL)

### 6. INTERNAL SECURITY EFFORTS PRESSED ON BROAD FRONT

THOUGH NO SENSATIONAL NEW DEVELOPMENT THIS WEEK IN INTERNAL SECURITY FIELD, PRESS REPORTS REFLECTED WIDE-SPREAD EFFORTS IMPROVE POLICE AND MILITARY CAPABILITIES IN MAINTENANCE LAW AND DRIDER. ON SEP 10 AIR CHIEF MARSHAL DAWEE ADDRESSED OFFNING SESSION / 61 H PSYWAR TRAINING CLASS OF POLICE, ARMY, AND CIVIL OFFICIALS STRESSING NEED TO CONVINCE PEOPLE OF GOVT INTEGRITY AND CONMUNIST TREACHERY. JUST BACK FROM INSPECTION IN MAKORN PHANOM, HE ALSO EMPHASIZED GOOD FERFORMANCE MOU'S THAT AREA, SAYING COMPLAINTS OF MISBEHAVIOR AGAINST THEM UNFOUNDED. BOTH DEP PRIMIN PRAPMAT, SEPT 15, AND DEPMINDEFENSE DAWEE NEXT DAY, TOLD REPORTERS ANTI-

PAGE FIVE RUNTBK 266K C O N F I D E N T I A L SUBVERSION DRIVE PRODUCING SATISFACTORY RESULTS. NOTING THAT NEW COMMANDER MACTHAI, GEN STILUELL, HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER SUBVERSION IN BORDER AREAS IN THEIR SECUND MEETING SEP 14, PRIMIN THANON TOLD PRESS THAT GOVT PREPARED TO TAKE STRONG SECURITY MEASURES. (UNCLASSIFIED)

CONMENT: THOUGH PROBLEM BY NO MEANS ELIMINATED THAT AUTHORITIES APPEAR TO BE MAKING EARNEST EFFORTS. DAWEE'S DEFENSE OF MOU'S AIMED AT OFFSETTING CRITICISM BELIEVED TO HAVE ORIGINATED IN BUREAUCRATIC JEALOUSY AGAINST HOU'S ON PART OF INTERIOR MINISTRY, WHICH GAVE RISE TO UNJUSTIFIED ALLEGATIONS. ONE THAT SOURCE REPORTED THAT DAWEE RETURNED FROM NORTHEAST FEELING SERIOUSNESS OF SITUATION THERE HAD BEEN EXAGGERATED BY PRESS. CONFIDENTIAL)

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# 7. SENI PRAMOJ CALLS FOR UNITY AGAINST COMMUNISM

EX-FRIMIN M.C. SENT PRAMOJ TOLD PRESS SEP 10 THAT MOST EFFECTIVE NEASURE AGAINST COMMUNIST INFILTRATION AND SUBVERSION IS SIRONG UNITY AMONG ALL LEVELS OF THE POPULATION. HE STATED CONSTITUTION NEED NOT PROHIBIT COMMUNIST POLITICAL PARTIES, SINCE THIS ALREADY COVERED BY CURRENT ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW, BUT RECOMMENDED THAT NEW POLITICAL PARTIES LAW SHOULD BAN ANY PARTY WITH COMMUNIST LEANINGS.

SENI HAD EARLIER RECEIVED THANKS IN NAME OF RTG FROM DEP PRIMIN PRAPHAT FOR HIS ANTI-COMMUNIST SPEECH AUG 31 WHICH ALSO CALLED FOR NATIONAL UNITY IN FACE OF COMMUNIST THREAT. (UNCLASSIFIED)

COMMENT: OFTEN CRITICAL OF VARIOUS RTG POLICIES IN PAST, SENI NOW APPEARS WILLING STRESS UNITY ON BASIS ANTI-COMMUNISM PATHER THAN CONCENTRATE ON DIFFERENCES OF OPINION, AN ATTITUDE GENUINELY APPRECIATED BY RTG. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

# 8. CABINET APPROVES PRINCIPLES FOR LOCAL SELF-ADMINISTRATION

CABINET MEETING SEPT 14 REPORTEDLY APPROVED PRINCIPLES FOR LOCAL SELF-ADMINISTRATION INCLUDING: ELECTED VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES; CHAIRMEN OF WHICH WILL FORM DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES; SPECIAL TRAINING FOR COMMITTEE WENBERS IN METHODS DEMOCRATIC LOCAL GOVT; LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS TO COME FROM LAND TAXES AND GOVT SUBSIDIES. (UNCLASSIFIED)

COMMENT: CABINET ACTION REFLECTS RTG READINESS TO TEST
"DEVELOPING DEMOCRACY PROGRAM" WHICH, WITH USON ADVISORY ASSISTANCE,
AIMS AT INTRODUCING DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURES AT LOCAL LEVEL, TOGETHER
WITH EMPHASIS ON CITIZEN'S CIVIC DUTY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.
DDP TO BE TESTED ON EXPERIMENTAL BASIS IN SELECTED AMPHURS OF
TOLD EMBOFFS THAT IF RESULTS ARE UP TO EXPECTATIONS DDP AT LOCAL
ALL LOCALITIES WITHOUT WAITING FOR PROMULGATION CONSTITUTION.

(CONFIDENTIAL)

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MILITARY

9. 20TH FA BATTALION MOVED TO UTTARADIT 20TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION (75MM) COMPLETED MOVE FROM

RUMTBK 266KA C O N F I D E N T I A L PRANBURI TO UTTARADIT AUG 26. (CONFIDENTIAL)

COMMENT: MOVE TO UTTARADIT UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR SEVERAL YEARS. 20TH FA BN IS ORGANIC UNIT OF CAVALRY DIVISION AND MOVE CONTRIBUTES TO EVENTUAL CONSOLIDATION OF UNITS OF 2ND CAVALRY REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM WHICH STILL HEADQUARTERED BANGKOK BUT HAS NUCLEUS OF READQUARTERS IN UTTARADIT.

THIS MOVE POSITIONS 20TH FA BN FOR BETTER MEETING ITS MILITARY COMMITMENTS ON FRONTIER. (CONFIDENTIAL)

PSYCHOLOGICAL

10. INDIA-PAKISTAN

INDIA-PAK DISPUTE DCM INATED EDITORIAL COMMENT DURING PAST WEEK, ALMOST EXCLUDING DISCUSSION OF VIETNAM, PERENNIAL COMPLAINTS RE CAMBODIA, OTHER FOREIGN NEWS. THREE MAJOR VIEWPOINTS EVIDENT: FIRST TYPIFIED BY KIATTISAK EDITORIAL SAYING "ONLY COUNTRY REJOICING IN FIGHTING IS RED CHINA." SECOND DECLARED THAI IMPARTIAL DESPITE SEATO MEMBERSHIP. THAI RAIWAN SAID "BOTH INDIA AND PAKISTAN OUR GOOD FRIENDS." THIRD THEME, APPEARING MOST RECENTLY, IS MILD ANTI-COLONIAL PLAINT THAT SITUATION REALLY BRITISH FAULT. THAI RATH SAID "WHEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN UNDER BRITISH RULE, INSTEAD OF REMEDYING DISUNITY CAUSED BY DIFFERENCE

RUMTBK 266KA C O N F I D E N T I A L
OF CASTES, LANGUAGE, RELIGION..., BRITISH EMPHASIZED THESE FACTORS
CREATING DISUNITY, THUS PERPETUATING RULE FOR OVER CENTURY."
(UNCLASSIFIED)

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### 11. IPI SEMINAR

INTERNATIONAL PRESS INSTITUTE MADE FIRST APPEARANCE HERE, UNDER SPONSORSHIP THAT FOUNDATION FOR JOURNALISM AND NEW JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION OF THATLAND. SEMINAR DIRECTED AT SEMIOR EDITORS, REPORTERS; CONTRARY TO IPI ORGANIZERS' FEARS, ATTENDANCE HAS BEEN STEADY FOR LENGTH OF SEMINAR. AMERICAN PARTICIPATION NEITHER REQUESTED NOR OFFERED, BUT PRINCE WAN, WHO HEADS JOURNALISM FOUNDATION AND ONCE RAN OWN NEWSPAPER, IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS' TO SEMINAR PRESENTED LIST OF TENETS LARGELY SIMILAR TO THOSE OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION AND AMERICAN NEWSPAPER GUILD.

GP-3. WILSON

NOTE: Pouched by GCT.

TELSTIVE COUNSEL

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